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Protection For Child Abuse Victims

Protective Services for the victims of child abuse is moving toward the utilization of a multi-disciplinary team which shares responsibility for identification, diagnosis and treatment of abused and/or neglected children and their families. The team approach combines the talents of professional experts in all aspects of the problems so that responsibility for critical decision concerning a case is no longer dumped on an overworked social worker. The interdisciplinary team composed of community persons such as social workers, policemen, pediatricians, nurses and doctors, teachers and judges act in an advisory and consultative capacity for the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

The team meets bi-monthly to assist social workers in case diagnosis and the development of treatment plans. Therapeutic intervention, based on a social evaluation of the home and family, may include: medical diagnosis and care for the child and his parents via physician, nurse and health clinics; psychiatric and psychological consultations for the total family; social services, including individual, family and group counseling; court and police involvement as warranted. The team approach to the age-old question of child abuse is proving to be invaluable, in that, it offers better treatment options for both parents and children.

Community education abot child abuse and neglect receives high priority. Team meetings become a learning experience for professionals and citizens who are periodically invited to attend. Team members act as a liason for in service training within their own agencies. The team sponsors training workshops for the education of various community groups who deal with children or potentially abusive parents.

The child abuse interagency team can be successfully incorporated within geographical boundaries to improve the quality of child protective services for the community it serves. Since the inception of the multi-disciplinary approach, fewer children have been permanently removed from home. Social services offered to the family unit enable family members to cope more adequately with their frustrations and disappointments.

Prayer Campaign In This Area Including Ford & Carter Starts Sept. 17 — Nov. 2

"It's Time To Pray, America,' A dramatic plan to mobilize the nation in prayer for 40 days between the weekend of September 17 and November 2, is fast taking shape across the country.

President Ford and Jimmy Carter, plus Billy Graham, Johnny Cash, and Pat Robertson are among the key figures of the prayer campaign.

Churches and Synagogues in the area are among the ones invited to participate.

Pastors from across the nation from virtually all denominatins will be leading their congregations in prayer for moral & ethical leadership in government, Education, The Media, Business, The Professions, Church and Family Life.

What the program seeks is a renewal of Americas national commitment as "One Nation Under God," and a shift away from current trends towards moral decay, according to a spokesman for the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN), which is sponsoring the campaign.

The plan was conceived by the Rev. M. G. "Pat" Robertson host of CBN's nationally televised "700 Club" program.

Robertson's organization has invited 200 thousand American ministers, Priests and Rabbis to lead their congregations in prayer for America in each of the seven weekends between September 17 and the time America goes to the polls. This week The National Conference of Christians and Jews added its endorsement to the "It's Time to Pray, America" campaign.

The major starting event for the prayer campaign will be a television special bearing the "It's Time To Pray, America," title. It was due to air on 217 television stations, mostly at 8 P.M. on Friday, September 19.

It will be seen on WDBJ, channel 7 at 8 P.M. in this area on September 19.

Additionally the Mutual Broadcasting Systems and several independent radio networks will be carrying the broadcast the following evening Saturday, September 18 at 10 P.M. eastern time.

The TV and radio special features President Ford, Jimmy Carter, Billy Graham, Pat Boone, Tom Landry, David Wilkerson, Terence Cardinal Cook, Olympic Athletes, Jim Ryun and Janet Lynn. Even Israeli Prime Minister Yitzak Rabin will make a brief, prerecorded appearance in the program calling American to prayer for the future of their nation.

In a letter to churches, program host Pat Robertson said he was asking the Nation's religious leaders to lead their congregations "In Earnest Prayer for the personal concerns for America" each week.

"Together, as concerned Americans, " said Robertson, "We know that God is our one true hope for our future as a nation as we begin our third century."

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The Pastor Speaks

October 11, 1976

"A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth". These words of Jesus Christ were spoken in the first instance to two brothers who were at odds over their possessions. Now the particulars of this difficulty between these two young men was no affair of Jesus. That was a matter for the conscience and the courts. But the motives that lay behind were his concern, and so, in answer to their appeal, He made a statement which bears directly upon all life in all time, and it is this that merits our reverent thoughts. "Take heed and beware of covetousness".

The common view is that no man begins to live until he has learned the value of money. Jesus reverse it. He taught that before he can really live, a man must understand the uselessness of money. What we have is not really our own. There is a difference in possession and ownership. Covetousness is the most terrible of all the diseases of the soul. It always brings with it uneasiness and unrest and longing which can never be satisfied. In the teaching of Jesus Christ, He makes it plain that possessions may become a weight that will prevent us from rising to the heights of blessings which God has prepared for us.

If a man's life consists not in the abundance of the things which he possesses, then what does it consist in? It consists in what he knows. It consists in what he loves. It consists in the things that he believes. Regardless of what superficial thinkers may say, it does make a difference what we believe. "As a man thinketh in his heart so is he" Our outward acts are nothing more than the expression of our convictions. This is why, as Paul expressed it, "every thought should be brought into captivity to the obedience of Christ". Of what possible use to any of us are the possessions we accumulate, if at the end there is nothing on which we can lean our tired hearts for rest?

Jimmy N. Williams, Pastor
Liberty Chapel and Gladstone Baptist Churches

The Sunday School Lesson

COMMENTS BY HERBERT C. BRADSHAW

RECONCILED THROUGH JESUS CHRIST

Scripture: Romans 5:1-21 **God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.** Romans 5:8

The word reconciliation has a theological significance quite disproportionate to the number of times it is used in the Scriptures. There is no equivalent word in the Hebrew language, although the concept is indicated a few times in the Old Testament, notably in Hosea 2:23 which Paul quotes in Romans (9:25). The only use of the term in the Greek translation of the Old Testament, the Septuagint, is in one of the books of the Apocrypha, 2 Maccabees. Even in the New Testament, where the term is so important in describing humanity's new situation in consequence of Christ's death on the Cross, it is found in only five passages in four of Paul's letters, Romans (5:10-11;//:15), 2 Corinthians (5:18-20), Ephesians (2:16) and Colossians (2:16).

When reconciliation as used in 2 Maccabees is compared with its use in the New Testament, a basic difference between Judaism and Christianity is seen. Paul stresses this difference in his presentation of law and grace. In the Jewish theology which developed in the post-exilic period and prevailed in the time of Christ and Paul, reconciliation could be accomplished by man's efforts. Through man's prayers and sacrifices and observance of the law, God would be reconciled with man and man could be saved. The gospel, as Paul understood it, taught the contrary, that man cannot save himself. Since Circumcision was the first step in observance of the law and symbolized it, we can understand better why Paul was so insistent that circumcision should not be required of Christians. It carried the implication that something man does is essential to salvation.

Reconciliation is closely associated and identified with the doctrines of justification and salvation. Believers are familiar with the concept that salvation is accomplished by God's grace received by the individual in faith. It is one of the most frequently proclaimed features of the gospel. Because of His great love for His creature, man, God sent His Son in the person of Jesus Christ to die in atonement for man's sin. Through Christ's death, which accomplished God's purpose to redeem man from sin, and not because of anything man does, he is saved.

Similarly, justification, the theological term used for making man righteous in God's sight, is accomplished by God's initiative and grace. Nothing man, by nature sinful and disobedient to God, does or can do makes him righteous before God. Only as the righteousness of the Son, who incarnate as Jesus Christ lived a perfect life, is credited to the human individual is a person justified or made righteous before God.

So it is with reconciliation. The word indicates estrangement and a return to harmonious relationship. Man through disobedience alienated himself from God, by whom he was created in perfect harmony with the Creator. Through the exercise of His sovereign grace, God purposed to reconcile the disobedient creature to Himself The initiative was God's. Left to the natural inclinations which disobedience introduced and encouraged, man became evil and antagonistic to God (Romans 1:18-32). Yet God acted in human history to reconcile His human enemies to Him that He might restore them to His family and give them the eternal life for which He created them.

In the Scriptural presentation of the doctrine of reconciliation, God is the subject. Reconciliation is accomplished through God's initiative. In several passages of Scripture, different terms are used to express the object of reconciliation, but all refer to humanity. In each of the passages Christ is presented as the mediator of reconciliation and His death on the Cross as the means of accomplishing reconciliation of man to, rather than with, God. We cannot leave reconciliation at this point, however. The discussion needs the supplement which next Sunday's lesson provided.

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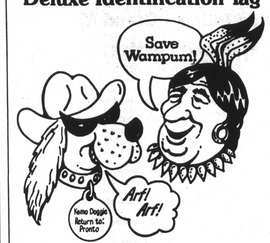

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Stonewall

"Judge not, that ye be not judged." Matt. 7:1

Mrs. Wilson Garrett took Mrs. John Ewers to Richmond to the doctor last Thursday. Her eye is giving her a lot of pain. Do hope it will soon clear up.

Mr. Richard Mitchell was home for the week end from Sheffield College.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Taylor's new home is coming on fine. Soon they will be ready to move in it.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Alvis, III and Ricky and Jennifer spent the week end with her mother at Pincastle.

Mr. and Mrs. Kerry Nelson and sons have moved to Glen Wilton, the former home of Clyde Carson.

Not much news as everybody is working and going to school.

Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Stratton, Ricky and David, Mr. and Mrs. I. B. Wheeler attended the wedding of Cyrus and Smith at Reedy Springs Baptist Church Friday night. A large crowd attended. It was a very pretty wedding and all enjoyed the fellowship at the reception.

May they have a long and happy life is my wish for them.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wheeler visited his parents Sunday and all went to Maude's for dinner Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Wheeler, Mrs. Bertha Jones and Richard visited the Wheelers in the afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. I. B. Wheeler visited Mr. and Mrs. Bob Worley Friday.

Beckham

OCTOBER 4 - Mr. Robert Morris and Mrs. Winston Martin was honored at a birthday party in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Winston Martin Thursday night. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Jutson Morris, Mrs. Mary Lizzie Ferguson and daughter, Linda and boys, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Martin, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Robert Morris, Melanie Morris and Mrs. S. G. Martin.

Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs Martin were Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Martin, A. C., Michael and Edward.

Karen Carter visited Gwen Moore Sunday.

Mr. Tom Schmutz and Jennifer were supper guest of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Morris and Melanie Sunday.

Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Schmutz and family were Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Moore, Rhonda and Mrs. H. C. Moore.

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Moore spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. John Moore and Jerry Moore.

Mr. Malcolm Drinkard was Sunday dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. Howlett Drinkard, Donald Lee and Miss Eunice Martin.

Mrs. Geraldine Moore, Debbie and Gwen, Mrs. Charles Tweedy ,Michelle and Tracy, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Moore, Jr. and family went to Lakeside Saturday for the annual B&W picnic.

Miss Carolyn Mooris motored to Richmond Saturday to attend a shower honoring Miss Patricia Martin.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Stallings and girls are spending this week in Bellvedere, N.C., where they plan to move in the near future.

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